



NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2017

VOLUME 13

ISSUE 2

President's Letter

Ken Sosnowski, President

Normally I use this space to brag about the many interesting things that the Salem Library offers which are sponsored by FOSL. This time, the newsletter is already full of articles detailing a summer of amazing activities. The timing of all this activity is perfect. As we prepare ourselves for a month of effort, unboxing, sorting and pricing thousands of books, we are receiving a flood of thanks from the library staff. It seems that every activity had more children, teens or adults than ever before and the staff couldn't wait to share their enthusiasm with the FOSL members. This is the reason we exist; the reason we labor to raise funds. We firmly believe that the public library is vital to the life of our city. To all our members, Thank You for your effort and enthusiasm. To all library supporters who donate books and especially to those who buy them, Thank You. ♦



Helen Robertson Award

We lost a dear Friend. Helen passed in July. She was very active in FOSL. It was amazing how she got things done. She will be missed. See the Chairman's comments following: *Ed*

By Chairman of the Board, FOSL

If anyone has wondered why there should be a **Helen Robertson Award** for a member of the Friends of the Library for longtime active service, here is an incomplete overview of Helen's service.

Helen became a member of FOSL more than twenty-five years ago, and there have been few meetings, events or projects that she did not have a hand in. Not only did she make it to meetings, but she could be counted on to make motions in business sessions when they were needed. She was a valuable worker in the Labels for Education for as long as that project was active. She made friends for FOSL by collecting unsold books and audio-visual items from yard Sales around town – less-clutter for the sellers, more inventory for the Book Sale.

When storage space was badly needed for early, large

Cont. Page 2

BOOK SALE

MEMBER'S SALE & LUNCH:

- Friday, September 8th 9:30 to 11:30 AM followed by the member's social and lunch. Please RSVP. (See Page 4.)

PUBLIC SALE:

- Friday, September 8th 1 to 8 pm!
- Olde Salem Day, September 9, 9 am to 4 pm
- Sunday, September 10, 1:30 to 4 PM, the Bag and Box sale



We Got Books!

Photos Pat Draper



Friends Volunteers start the process. Much to be done.

donations for the Book Sale, she found free storage which lasted for several years. Earlier this spring the Board decided we needed an audit. Helen found someone willing to do one. And she did two of the most thankless tasks that have to be done at the Book Sale. She willingly checked memberships to be sure they were up to date and for years was the cashier for the Sale.

If you would like to nominate someone for the **Helen Robertson Award**, please have your nomination ready for the October Friends meeting. The Board of Directors will act on the Nominations. ♦

Nancy Collins' Retirement

By Ann Tripp

Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate the wonderful career of Nancy Collins, our longtime reference and technology librarian! Nancy retired at the end of June, and the Friends of Salem Library joined with the library in hosting a fantastic get-together in Nancy's honor. Library staff, former coworkers, Nancy's longtime friends, and FOSL members all joined together to give Nancy a send-off in style! By all accounts, Nancy is enjoying her retirement immensely – and library staff is delighted to see her when she comes to the library! ♦



Nancy and Ann



Library Changes and Updates

By Ann Tripp

Work has commenced on the new roof, approved by Salem City Council! McNeil Roofing started work on the project on Monday, August 14th, with the delivery of pallets of insulation and other roofing materials. The first order of business was building and installing new drains, thanks to G&H Contracting; once the drains are complete, the front portion of the library roof will be redone first, with the back (flat) portion coming second. The project will take about four months. Once the roof project is complete, we will redo the patio area with a wrought iron fence and additional features to make the area a more inviting space.

The Salem Community Heritage Quilt has moved to its new home at the Salem Museum. The quilt will now be cared for by experienced archivists and will be part of a regular display of local quilts that the Museum has been cultivating. In its place, we have installed new slat wall to create a larger display space for the Seed Library. ♦

Salem Seed Library

By Ann Tripp

Garden harvesting time is here, and we hope to hear news of successes and failures from those who borrowed from the inaugural crop of seed from the Salem Seed Library. Participants checked out approximately 90 seed packets this year to grow and save the seeds from the harvest to return to the library to perpetuate seed for next year. The Salem Seed Library began May 30, 2017 with a supply of organic and heirloom seeds donated by the Friends of Salem Library, the Virginia Cooperative Extension, Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Co., and the Seed Exchange, as well as any other seeds donated by Seed Library patrons. Newly added to our seed collection are over 1800 packets of donated flower seed we received from the Roanoke Community Garden Association.

If you have seeds to return or donate, pick up empty seed packets from the Seed Library and record the type of seed, season year, location of growing, and more so the next person to use your seeds can grow with knowledge and confidence.



Directions for harvesting your seed are available on the Salem Public Library website: www.salemlibrary.info

All returned and donated seed must be harvested from a plant that is not diseased, is organically grown, and not harvested from hybrid plants. ♦

Solar Eclipse, August 21, 2017

By David Butler, Teen Librarian

WOW! What a day at the Salem Public Library. We celebrated the solar eclipse on the library's front lawn from 1-4pm. We had about 1800 people come to the program over the four-hour period. Over the past four weeks, we handed out over 2000 pair of eclipse glasses so our patrons would be able to safely view the eclipse. The day of the eclipse, we handed out around 500 pair to those in attendance.

At the beginning of our program, we had Officer Wiley of the Salem Police Department help us distribute the eclipse glasses. Once the glasses were distributed, the party began. Our Salem residents enjoyed many activities throughout the day including free snacks, ice cream from Cool Blue, crafts for the children, and people actually made their own eclipse viewers with materials supplied by the library.

We want to thank the Roanoke Valley Astronomical Society for supplying some telescopes for observation. The Friends of the Salem Library recently bought a telescope for the library that was a huge hit during the party. It was great to see so many organizations working together to help so many people enjoy one of nature's rare moments. ◇



Children's Summer Reading Program 2017: Build a Better World

By Emily Metrock, Children's Librarian

Our 2017 Children's Summer Reading Program was a huge success! Over 500 children signed up for the Summer Reading Challenge, earning coupons donated by local businesses, by completing different reading and library "challenges". Parents and children alike loved this new format, and greatly appreciated the generosity shown by the nine businesses who supplied the reading prizes.

Since the FOSLs did not have to provide money to purchase prizes, that money instead went to our first-ever "Reading for Charity" event. Every time a patron read a book they "voted" for one of three charities. Everyone participated – adults, teens, *and* children! Over 1400 votes were cast, and in the end, the grand winner was the Salem Animal Shelter. The Flooded West Virginia Libraries came in second, and the Salem Food Pantry in third.



The FOSLs will donate \$800, \$600, and \$400 to these three lucky charities. Thank you, FOSLs! The public loved this event, and we truly appreciate your support.

The children's programs this summer were a big success, too. We hosted 47 programs with a total attendance of 2,647 people! WOW. The biggest hits of the summer were Little Critters Petting Zoo, the Fire Station Storytime, the Summer Kick-off and Finale, Storytime with Belle, Mill Mountain Theatre's production of "The Jungle Book", and the Water Play Storytime. (We had a great time at the other 40 programs, too!) Patron feedback was positive all summer long, and every day staff and patrons alike left the library glowing with happiness.

Another successful summer in the books! ◇



Teen Summer Reading Program

By David Butler, Teen Librarian

This was a fantastic year for the Teen Summer Reading Program. We had 123 teens sign up! This is by far the most teens in the program's history. I believe a large part of the success is due to the prizes and the programming.

We collaborated with nine local businesses for some great prizes. The businesses that supported us this year were; Chick-Fil-A, Corbin's Confections, Frank's Pizza, Launching Pad, Lee Hi Bowling Lanes, Skate Center of the Roanoke Valley, Taubman Museum of Art, Thunder Valley and the Virginia Museum of Transportation. They offered free games, free food, discounted prices and free passes.

The teens really enjoyed our program at Thunder Valley where they were able to play laser tag, miniature golf and race the go-carts on the indoor track. We added a new program this year that was a major hit. We partnered with Step into Mystery for our teen mystery night and the teens who attended really loved it. It was a fantasy setting with werewolves, gnomes, sorcerers, witches, elves, and many other characters.

A huge thank you to the Friends of the Salem Public Library for helping to make this our most successful Summer Reading Program ever!

Displays

By John Spruban, VP, Friends of the Salem Library

I had the opportunity to do two more exhibits using the library showcases. (See FOSL Newsletter, January 2016 for John's earlier exhibit. Ed)

The first was during October, 2016, the official Stars Wars month. In the showcase nearest the children's section, I told the history of Star Wars using action figures. The marketing of Star Wars toys forever changed the toy market. Thousands of items were released over the past 40 years since the first Star Wars movie came out in May, 1977. In the showcase near the rear entrance, the display included a sampling of items released over the past 40 years: lunchboxes, a stamp collecting kit, Time magazine with a Darth Vader cover, comic books, and many other items.



The second exhibit during December, 2016 in the showcase nearest to the children's section, was on Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer. Begun as an advertising campaign by Montgomery Ward stores in 1940, followed by a song by Gene Autry, and continuing stories in comic books and TV specials, the character is now a large part of American Christmas pop culture.

The library is always looking for exhibits. Please speak to library staff if you would like to do one. ♦



An Interview with Carly Budzynski

By Ann Tripp & Carly

An introduction to one of the wonderful people who make the Salem Public Library the valuable community resource it is. *Ed.*



Worked at Salem Public Library since: March of 2016

Grew up in: Mukwonago, Wisconsin

Library Master's Degree from: University of Kentucky

Favorite Sports Team: Green Bay Packers

Favorite Book: To Kill a Mockingbird

What made you want to be a librarian? Being a librarian is a true calling to help people. I always wanted to be a librarian, and ever since I was young I have loved to read and loved being able to do research to help my family and friends.

What was your first library job? I was an intern at the Bloomer Public Library in Bloomer, Wisconsin (the Jump Rope Capital of America). After about five months, I was hired on as their interim cataloger, and I remained in that position until I started graduate school at the University of Kentucky.

What do you do all day? I prepare the materials we order for our patrons to check out by entering them in the catalog. Each item is entered in to our system, with ties to other titles by the same author, by the series, and by subjects, so the items we have in our holdings can be easily found. My job is to create those records and make our materials available and easily found. I also manage the physical processing of the new additions to our collection: the stickering, wrapping, stamping, and other tasks we perform on each item to prepare them for the shelves.

What's your favorite things about working in Salem? The people! Everyone is so friendly, from our patrons to other library staff to the Salemites I meet walking around town.

What do you like to do when you're not at work? I'm on a trivia team, I love watching movies and shows on Netflix (we're big fans of "Frasier" from the 90s), and I also really enjoy knitting.

What's something surprising your colleagues might not know about you? I like to visit public libraries on vacation, and I almost got kicked of a public library in Austria for taking pictures in the university library. ♦

Salem Elementary School Art Show

By Ann Tripp

The Salem Elementary School Art Show, sponsored by the Friends of Salem Library, was a great success! Held on May 21st, 325 children, parents, grandparents, teachers, and friends attended this year's Art Show on a beautiful spring afternoon. The venue and refreshments were greatly appreciated by all who attended, and the art created by the students was incredibly well-done. Thank you to Beverly Nicely and Chris Taibbi, Gifted Education Specialists for the City of Salem, for helping to coordinate this program, as well as Sarah Meadows, Salem Schools art teacher, for her support! ♦



Officers of the Friends of the Salem Library:

President: Ken Sosnowski
Vice President: John Spruhan
Secretary: Susan Ahalt
Treasurer: Joyce Foster

Board of Directors:

Sara Ahalt, Chairman
Betty Waldron
Charles Draper, Past President
Gale Evans
Vacancy

Standing Committees:

Book Sale: Ken Sosnowski
Newsletter Editor: Charlie Draper 387-9824
Historian: Pat Draper

This Newsletter is published biannually in January and August of each year by the Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St, Salem, VA 24153-3897

Internet:

www.salemlibrary.info/Community/FriendsoftheLibrary.aspx

Membership dues (other than Life) are payable **January 1 of each year. Consult your mailing label.**

If the date shown is **prior to 2017**, please renew your membership. You may pay by check (payable to FOSL) at the Library desk, by mail, or at the Member's Sale.

Important Dates

FOSL holds four regular meetings each year. They are on the 2nd Sunday of the scheduled month starting at 2PM and last for approximately one hour. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute to regular business meetings and to volunteer to help make activities such as the Book Sale a success.

Dates:

- August 10 through September 7, Book Sale preparation in Library Meeting Room
- September 8 through 10, **FOSL Book Sale**

<i>Member's Sale:</i>	<i>Friday 8th</i>	<i>9:30 - 11:30</i>
<i>Member's Social:</i>	<i>Friday 8th</i>	<i>Noon – 1, RSVP</i>
<i>Public Sale:</i>	<i>Friday 8th</i>	<i>1 – 8</i>
<i>Public Sale:</i>	<i>Saturday 9th</i>	<i>9 – 4</i>
<i>Public Sale:</i>	<i>Sunday, 10th</i>	<i>1:30 – 4</i>

- September 11, Meeting Room Cleanup
- October 8, regular meeting:
- January 14, 2017, regular meeting: ***Election of Officers***

Member's Social & Luncheon

Members of the Friends of the Salem Library are invited to a Social with Luncheon immediately after the Member's Book Sale. RSVP required.

Friday, September 8 at 12:00PM

Right after the Members' Sale

Please RSVP to 375-3089 or e-mail library@salemva.gov